

NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

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For Immediate Release

MAY 24, 2005

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on May 3, 2005, **SHANE A. CLUTTS**, age 29, and **STEPHANIE M. RENNISON**, age 26, both of Murphysboro, Illinois, and **CHARLES MICHAEL WADE**, age 25, of Carbondale, Illinois, were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury sitting in Benton, Illinois, in a one-count indictment, charging them with conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine. The violation took place between May 2003, and April 8, 2005, in Jackson County, Illinois. An indictment is a formal charge against a defendant. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.

The offense carries a penalty of between 5 and 40 years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$2,000,000, and a term of 4 years supervised release.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Murphysboro Police Department, and Drug Enforcement Administration pursuant to their participation in the Jackson County Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Under the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative, federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutors are working together to prosecute drug dealers, felons in possession of firearms, and criminals that use firearms to commit violent offenses or drug trafficking offenses. The Jackson County Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative is a joint and cooperative effort of the United States Attorney's Office, Jackson County States Attorney's Office, Drug Enforcement Administration, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, Carbondale Police Department, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Murphysboro Police Department, and Southern Illinois Enforcement Group. The Perry County Sheriff's Office also assisted in the investigation.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.